IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA

ORDER AMENDING THE GENERAL RULES OF PRACTICE FOR THE SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT COURTS

Pursuant to section 7A-34 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the Court hereby amends Rule 6 of the General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts.

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Rule 6. Motions in Civil Actions

All motions, written or oral, shall state the rule number or numbers under which the movant is proceeding. (See Rule 7 of Rules of Civil Procedure.)

Motions may be heard and determined either at the pre-trial conference or on motion calendar as directed by the presiding judge.

Every motion shall be signed by at least one attorney of record in his individual name. He shall state his office address and telephone number immediately following his signature. The signature of an attorney constitutes a certificate by him that he has read the motion; that to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, there are good grounds to support it; and that the motion is not interposed for delay. (See Rule 7(b)(2); also Rule 11).

The court in civil matters, on its motion or upon motion by a party, may in its discretion order that argument of any motion be accomplished by means of a telephone conference without requiring counsel to appear in court in person. Upon motion of any party, the court may order such argument to be recorded in such manner as the court shall direct. The court may direct which party shall pay the costs of the telephone calls. Conduct of counsel during such arguments may be subject to punishment as for direct criminal contempt of court.

An attorney scheduling a hearing on a motion must make a good-faith effort to request a date for the hearing on which each interested party is available. This requirement does not apply if a motion is properly made ex parte. An attorney's failure to comply with this requirement is an adequate ground on which the court may grant a continuance.

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This amendment to the General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts becomes effective on 1 September 2021.

This amendment shall be published in the North Carolina Reports and posted on the rules web page of the Supreme Court of North Carolina.

Ordered by the Court in Conference, this the 25th day of August 2021.

For the Court

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, this the 27th day of August 2021.

AMY L. FUNDERBURK

Clerk of the Supreme Court